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Summary record of the 331st meeting

Topic:
Other topics

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INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE EIGHTH SESSION

331st MEETING

Monday, 23 April 1956, at 3 p.m.

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Chairman: Mr. S. B. KRYLOV, First Vice-Chairman.

Present:

Members: Mr. Gilberto AMADO, Mr. Douglas L. EDMONDS, Sir Gerald FITZMAURICE, Mr. F. V. GARCÍA-AMADOR, Faris Bey el-KHOURI, Mr. Radhabinod PAL, Mr. A. E. F. SANDSTRÖM, Mr. Jaroslav ZOUREK.

Secretariat: Mr. LIANG, Secretary to the Commission.

Opening of the session

1. The CHAIRMAN, welcoming the members of the International Law Commission, said that they were meeting in an era of peaceful co-existence marked by a welcome relaxation of international tension. It was their duty as jurists to stress the role of international law, which provided the most effective means of solving many of the outstanding problems facing the international community. The Commission's agenda was a heavy one, and items 1 and 2—Regime of the high seas and Regime of the territorial sea respectively—were of particular importance.

2. He wished to pay a tribute to Mr. Amado for his outstanding contribution, which had led to some measure of agreement on the subject of the breadth of the territorial sea. He was, moreover, not unmindful of the contribution of the Latin-American members of the Commission generally, who had played such an active part in its work. It should not be forgotten that any progress achieved in the codification of international law had been largely due to the efforts of Latin-American jurists.

3. Expressing the hope that the Commission's work would be fruitful, he *declared the eighth session of the International Law Commission open.*

4. He then said that, in view of the absence of the Chairman, of Mr. Spiropoulos, and of several other members, it might be advisable to defer the election of officers till their arrival.

It was so agreed.

5. Mr. AMADO, speaking on behalf of himself and his Latin-American colleagues, thanked the Chairman for his kind words.

Adoption of the provisional agenda (A/CN.4/95)

6. The CHAIRMAN said that, since the Commission was not at full strength, it would be inadvisable to take any

decision on the order in which the items of the provisional agenda should be considered. He would, however, welcome any comments.

7. Sir Gerald FITZMAURICE suggested that, in view of the necessity for submitting to the General Assembly, at its eleventh session, a report on items 1 and 2 of the provisional agenda, those items should be taken first. Moreover, until they had been disposed of, it might be advisable to defer a decision on the remaining items.

Further consideration of the provisional agenda was deferred.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.

332nd MEETING

Tuesday, 24 April 1956, at 4 p.m.

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Chairman: Mr. S. B. KRYLOV, First Vice-Chairman; later Mr. F. V. GARCÍA-AMADOR.

Rapporteur: Mr. J. P. A. FRANÇOIS.

Present:

Members: Mr. Gilberto AMADO, Mr. Douglas L. EDMONDS, Sir Gerald FITZMAURICE, Faris Bey el-KHOURI, Mr. Radhabinod PAL, Mr. A. E. F. SANDSTRÖM, Mr. Jaroslav ZOUREK.

Secretariat: Mr. LIANG, Secretary to the Commission.

Election of Chairman and Rapporteur

1. The CHAIRMAN called for nominations for the office of Chairman.

2. Mr. SANDSTRÖM proposed Mr. García-Amador.

Mr. García-Amador was elected Chairman by acclamation and took the Chair.

3. The CHAIRMAN thanked the Commission for the honour done to him.

4. At the previous session it had been agreed that Mr. François, the Special Rapporteur on the topics to which the greater part of the session would be devoted—namely, the regime of the high seas and the regime of the territorial sea—should also act as Rapporteur for the session. He suggested that that procedure be followed again, and that Mr. François accordingly be elected Rapporteur.

It was so agreed.